

# **ST. JOSEPH - STRINGTOWN**

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

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### St. Joseph-Stringtown Ministries 2025

|                                     |                                                  |                                     |                                             |                                     |                                               |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>JULY:</b>                        |                                                  | <b>AUGUST:</b>                      |                                             | <b>SEPTEMBER:</b>                   |                                               |
| <b><u>Servers</u></b>               |                                                  | <b><u>Servers</u></b>               |                                             | <b><u>Servers</u></b>               |                                               |
| <b>Sun. July 6</b>                  | Kerigan Kocher, Hallie Ochs, Gus Kocher          | <b>Sun. August 3</b>                | Roland Sager, Silas Sager, Don Seiler       | <b>Sun. September 7</b>             | Emmitt Kocher, Gabriel Volk & Will Volk       |
| <b>Sun. July 13</b>                 | Delana Sterchi, Grayson Sterchi, Levi Weidner    | <b>Sun. August 10</b>               | Emmitt Kocher, Ian Kocher, Hallie Ochs      | <b>Sun. September 14</b>            | Amity Zuber, Anna Seiler, Nathaniel Zwilling  |
| <b>Sun. July 20</b>                 | Kaitlyn Ginder, Haley Ginder, Nathaniel Zwilling | <b>Sun. August 17</b>               | Kerigan Kocher, Hallie Ochs, Julian Seaman  | <b>Sun. September 21</b>            | Roland Sager, Silas Sager, Ian Kocher         |
| <b>Sun. July 29</b>                 | Amity Zuber, Gabriel Volk & Will Volk            | <b>Sun. August 24</b>               | Kaitlyn Ginder, Haley Ginder, Gus Kocher    | <b>Sun. September 28</b>            | Delana Sterchi, Grayson Sterchi, Brady Ochs   |
|                                     |                                                  | <b>Sun. August 31</b>               | Delana Sterchi, Grayson Sterchi, Brady Ochs |                                     |                                               |
|                                     |                                                  |                                     |                                             |                                     |                                               |
| <b><u>Lector</u></b>                |                                                  | <b><u>Lector</u></b>                |                                             | <b><u>Lector</u></b>                |                                               |
| <b>Sun. July 6</b>                  | Wayne Kocher                                     | <b>Sun. August 3</b>                | Anita Seiler                                | <b>Sun. September 7</b>             | Jocelyn Kocher                                |
| <b>Sun. July 13</b>                 | Laura Sterchi                                    | <b>Sun. August 10</b>               | Kylie Kocher                                | <b>Sun. September 14</b>            | Owen Kocher                                   |
| <b>Sun. July 20</b>                 | Natalie Zwilling                                 | <b>Sun. August 17</b>               | Shelly Seaman                               | <b>Sun. September 21</b>            | Gary Zwilling                                 |
| <b>Sun. July 29</b>                 | Kathy Kocher                                     | <b>Sun. August 24</b>               | Hank Ginder                                 | <b>Sun. September 28</b>            | Laura Sterchi                                 |
|                                     |                                                  | <b>Sun. August 31</b>               | Gary Zwilling                               |                                     |                                               |
|                                     |                                                  |                                     |                                             |                                     |                                               |
| <b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b> |                                                  | <b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b> |                                             | <b><u>Eucharistic Ministers</u></b> |                                               |
| <b>Sun. July 6</b>                  | Gary, Beth, & Ian Kocher                         | <b>Sun. August 3</b>                | Scott Seiler, Jamie Kocher, Grayson Sterchi | <b>Sun. September 7</b>             | Scott Seiler, Janette Kocher, Owen Kocher     |
| <b>Sun. July 13</b>                 | Grayson Sterchi, Gary Zwilling, Jamie Kocher     | <b>Sun. August 10</b>               | Elmer, Mary, & John Ochs                    | <b>Sun. September 14</b>            | Gary Zwilling, Grayson Sterchi, Jenny Hancock |
| <b>Sun. July 20</b>                 | Elmer, Mary, & John Ochs                         | <b>Sun. August 17</b>               | Owen Kocher, Gary Zwilling, Janette Kocher  | <b>Sun. September 21</b>            | Elmer, Mary, & John Ochs                      |
| <b>Sun. July 29</b>                 | Harold & Lisa Boehl, Jenny Hancock               | <b>Sun. August 24</b>               | Gary, Beth, and & Ian Kocher                | <b>Sun. September 28</b>            | Gary, Beth, & Ian Kocher                      |
|                                     |                                                  | <b>Sun. August 31</b>               | Harold & Lisa Boehl, Jamie Kocher           |                                     |                                               |
|                                     |                                                  |                                     |                                             |                                     |                                               |
| <b><u>Gifts</u></b>                 |                                                  | <b><u>Gifts</u></b>                 |                                             | <b><u>Gifts</u></b>                 |                                               |
| <b>Sun. July 6</b>                  | Chad & Jenny Hancock Family                      | <b>Sun. August 3</b>                | Gary & Dorothy Zwilling                     | <b>Sun. September 7</b>             | Bill Zuber                                    |
| <b>Sun. July 13</b>                 | Lester & Janice Zuber                            | <b>Sun. August 10</b>               | David Muhs Family                           | <b>Sun. September 14</b>            | Jack Weidner Family                           |
| <b>Sun. July 20</b>                 | Ellen Steber Family                              | <b>Sun. August 17</b>               | Werner & Janette Kocher                     | <b>Sun. September 21</b>            | Scott Seiler Family                           |
| <b>Sun. July 29</b>                 | Ray Schneider Family                             | <b>Sun. August 24</b>               | Harold & Lisa Boehl                         | <b>Sun. September 28</b>            | John Ochs Family                              |
|                                     |                                                  | <b>Sun. August 31</b>               | Tom Kocher Family                           |                                     |                                               |
|                                     |                                                  |                                     |                                             |                                     |                                               |
| <b><u>Ushers</u></b>                |                                                  | <b><u>Ushers</u></b>                |                                             | <b><u>Ushers</u></b>                |                                               |
| <b>Sun. July 6</b>                  | Scott & Luke Seiler                              | <b>Sun. August 3</b>                | Byron & Isaac Zwilling                      | <b>Sun. September 7</b>             | David Muhs, Evelyn Volk                       |
| <b>Sun. July 13</b>                 | Jack & Jared Weidner                             | <b>Sun. August 10</b>               | Ray & Alex Schneider                        | <b>Sun. September 14</b>            | Scott & Luke Seiler                           |
| <b>Sun. July 20</b>                 | David Muhs, Austin Kuentler                      | <b>Sun. August 17</b>               | Elmer Ochs, Ian Kocher                      | <b>Sun. September 21</b>            | Carter Seaman, Lester Zuber                   |
| <b>Sun. July 29</b>                 | James Schneider, Lester Zuber                    | <b>Sun. August 24</b>               | Tom Kocher, Mallory Kocher                  | <b>Sun. September 28</b>            | Harold Boehl, Werner Kocher                   |
|                                     |                                                  | <b>Sun. August 31</b>               | Brian & Mitchell Ochs                       |                                     |                                               |
|                                     |                                                  |                                     |                                             |                                     |                                               |
| <b><u>Greeters</u></b>              |                                                  | <b><u>Greeters</u></b>              |                                             | <b><u>Greeters</u></b>              |                                               |
| <b>Sun. July 6</b>                  | Bill Zuber                                       | <b>Sun. May 4</b>                   | Ralph & Sue McIntire                        | <b>Sun. September 7</b>             | Jean Kocher Family                            |
| <b>Sun. July 13</b>                 | Mallory Kocher & Natalie Ochs                    | <b>Sun. May 11</b>                  | Seaman Family                               | <b>Sun. September 14</b>            | Doug & Lora Kocher Family                     |
| <b>Sun. July 20</b>                 | Werner & Janette Kocher                          | <b>Sun. May 18</b>                  | Sam & Mary Zwilling                         | <b>Sun. September 21</b>            | Gary & Beth Kocher Family                     |
| <b>Sun. July 29</b>                 | Elmer & Mary Ochs                                | <b>Sun. May 25</b>                  | Caden Kocher                                | <b>Sun. September 28</b>            | Bill Zuber                                    |
|                                     |                                                  |                                     |                                             |                                     |                                               |

\*Please Find A Substitute If You Cannot Attend As Scheduled\*

# TRI PARISH NEWS

## ST. JOSEPH, OLNEY

### Mass times

Wed. & Fri 8:00 am  
Sat. 5:00 pm  
Sun. 8:00 am

## HOLY CROSS, WENDELIN

### Mass times

Thurs. 6:30 pm  
Sat. 4:00 pm  
Sun. 10:00 am

## ST. JOSEPH, STRINGTOWN

### Mass times

Mon. 6:30 pm  
Sun. 8:00 am



✚  
**ST. JOSEPH  
OLNEY**



✚  
**HOLY CROSS  
WENDELIN**



✚  
**ST. JOSEPH  
STRINGTOWN**

## AROUND OUR PARISHES

### Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>

Labor day, parish offices closed

### Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

First Friday mass 8 am, Olney.

### Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>

- First Saturday mass 9 am, Holy Cross.
- Carlo Acutis Canonization Lock-in for High Schoolers at Holy Cross. Starts with 4 pm mass, ends Sunday morning.

### Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>

American Red Cross Blood Drive at Holy Cross- Wendelin Parish Center. 1:30-5:30 pm.

### Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>

Red plates will be given out at all masses for all first graders as part of the kitchen table catechesis.

### Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>

Middle school youth group following the 4 pm mass at Holy Cross.

### Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>

- High school youth group at 5:30 pm at St. Joseph Stringtown.
- Holy Cross Feast Day/Dedication Ceremony, 10 am Mass followed by meal at 11 am (Please RSVP). Dedication at 1 pm.

### Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

First Parish Council meeting for Olney at 7 pm in conference room.

### September 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>

Catechesis mass at all parishes.

Children present in weekend mass will come forward to give a special blessing to catechists.

### Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup>

- CYM mass, 8 am at St. Joseph Stringtown.
- Anniversary Brunch following the 8 am mass at St. Joseph, Olney.
- Young Adults Gathering TBD

### Saturday, September 27<sup>th</sup>

Middle school youth group following the 5 pm mass at Olney.

### Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>

High school youth group at 5:30 at Holy Cross (Praise and worship after)

## AROUND OUR PARISHES

**Big and Beautiful Mums**

**\$17 EACH OR \$32 FOR TWO**

AVAILABLE IN: YELLOW BURGUNDY ORANGE  
NEW THIS YEAR! TRI-COLOR (\$20)

**ORDERS DUE BY: FRIDAY, SEPT. 5TH**  
**PICKUP IS: FRIDAY, SEPT. 12TH**

CHECKS PAYABLE TO SJS.  
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL

**MUM FUNDRAISER**

Help support St. Joseph School by purchasing some big and beautiful mums for fall!! Contact any student or the school office to order.



### Following in the Footsteps of the Saints Library

The weather is cooler, and there is nothing like a great book and a warm drink! Be sure to check out the library and take home a book to read! The libraries are located in the vestibules of the tri-parishes.

Book Suggestions: For Kids: Teresa of Avila Interior Castle (even shaped like a castle) and the When we go to Mass (even shaped like a church). For Adults: My Sisters the Saints or This Present Paradise.



### Sisters in Christ

Our New Book is, "The Story of the Soul" the life of St. Thérèse of Lisieux.

St. Therese said, "Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."

If you are interested in joining, contact Caroline Trimble Pastoral Associate at [ctrimblepa@gmail.com](mailto:ctrimblepa@gmail.com).

Olney: Tuesdays at 5:00 pm  
Wendelin: Wednesdays at 5:30 pm  
Stringtown: Tuesdays at 10:00 am

\*Olney group will not meet on Tuesday, September 9th.

## ADORATION

There must always be at least 2 people in the church

St. Joseph, Stringtown  
Prayer service & adoration every  
Tuesday at 9:30 am.

Holy Cross, Wendelin  
Thursdays at 5:30 pm until mass  
time at 6:30 pm.

St. Joseph, Olney  
Every Tuesday from 12-3 pm

### Contact Us

#### Parish Offices

St. Joseph, Olney  
618-392-8181

Holy Cross, Wendelin  
618-752-5671

St. Joseph, Stringtown  
618-754-3676

School office: 618-395-3081



#### Young Adults Bible Study

Meets every Monday at 7:00 pm at  
Holy Cross in Wendelin.

#### Brothers in Christ

Meets every Thursday after mass at  
Holy Cross in Wendelin around  
7pm.



#### St. Joseph School News

Sep. 1: No School, Labor Day  
Sep. 5: Mum orders due  
Sep. 12: Mum pickup at the City Park  
Sep. 17: 11:50 dismissal  
Sep. 22-26: Iowa testing week  
Sep. 25-26: Book Fair  
Sep. 25: 1:50 dismissal  
Sep. 26: Courtyard band concert

"The LORD is my strength and my shield; in Him my heart trusts, and I am helped;  
my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to Him." -Psalm 28:7 ESV

# formed<sup>TM</sup>

Forming Catholics for *Life*.



Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier! Discover small group Bible studies, inspiring children's shows, sacramental preparation resources, family-friendly movies, and more! There is something for every member of the family and your Catholic community to help them grow closer to Jesus Christ and his Church.



Register for a free **Formed** account at [signup.formed.org](https://signup.formed.org) Use Zip Code: 62448

# Family Catechesis Schedule of Events

## "Following in the Footsteps of Saints"

### 2025 August

**27 Wed. Opening Mass**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m.



**Families:** You will receive the Family Tote with Family Catechesis Saint Binder, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items, and Special Blessing for the year.

### September

**3 Wed. Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Families:** Parent meeting, youth activity, Saint presentation and Birthday party for Mary with The Word of Life Workbook, and other "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

**Sacrament Meeting for:**  
Reconciliation/Confirmation

**13-14- Red Plate Blessing for 1<sup>st</sup> graders**

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder for updates.

### October

**1 Wed. Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Adults:** Presentation

**Youth:** Activity  
Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

**4-5 Confirmation Commitment Weekend**

**11-12 Cup Blessing for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders**

**30-All Saint-Family Rosary-Trunk n'Treat after Mass**

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

### November

**5 Wed. Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Families:** All Saint Maze and special Saint presentations, with bonfire and s/mores. Gift of Love information and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

**8-9 Candle Blessing for 3<sup>rd</sup> graders**  
**29-30 -Gift of Love Mass Weekend**

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

### December

**3 Wed. Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Adults:** Presentation

**Youth:** Activity  
Saint presentations, Advent party, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

**7 -Advent tradition of "Evensong" at Holy Cross**  
**8 & 11- First Reconciliation**

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

### Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year



### 2026 January

**7 Wed. Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Families:** Saint presentations, Three Kings and 12<sup>th</sup> Night Dinner Party and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

### February

**4 Wed. Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Adults:** Presentation

**Youth:** Activity  
Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

**7-M.C.4.C. Valentine Dinner/Dance at Holy Cross**

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

### March

**4 Wed. Ash Wednesday**  
**15- Divine Mercy Book begins**



**19 -Families:** St. Joseph Table tradition with Mass and Dinner at St. Joseph Stringtown  
Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

### April

**1 Wed. Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Adults:** Presentation

**Youth:** Activity

Saint presentations and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

**5 -Easter**

**12 -Divine Mercy Sunday**

**(17,18,19)Confirmation at St. Joseph Olney**

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder and Sacrament book for check-in.

### May

**3 Sun. Holy Cross May Crowning**  
**2-3 First Communion**  
**6 Wed. Closing Family Gathering**  
Holy Cross 6:30 p.m. Parish Center



**Families:** Final Saint presentations, catered meal, and year end video presentation, and "Following in the Footsteps of the Saints" items.

\*Reminder to bring Family Tote with Saint Binder

**"Let us become saints so that  
after having been together on  
earth, we may be together in  
Heaven."**

**St. Pio Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)**



### The Saint Presentation of Bl. Carlo Acutis was offered by Clinton Rauch.

I am Carlo Acutis, I was born May 3, 1991, in London, England and soon after my family moved to Milan, Italy. It is hard to explain, but even when I was young, I had a special love for God. I felt drawn to the Mass, and when I was around 7, I was going to daily Mass and Adoration.

What amazing parents when I think about it now, that they let me do this. My parents saw my love for God grow, and they too then started going to daily Mass. We went as a family; I loved going to Mass with my family! I even had other people in our community and parish community that soon started attending daily Mass and receiving Jesus daily. Oh, how I so love Jesus. Do you?

**"To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan." Bl. Carlo**

# Following in the Footsteps of the Saints

The **Catholic Extension Grant** contributed:

*"Following in the Footsteps of the Saints"* booklets,

Saint cards, Saint Relics, and various other resources.

A **Parish Library** was set up in each of our three parishes to further grow and deepen our own Catholic faith.

## formed.org

This is Catholic Streaming-FREE- for ALL your movies, kids shows, audiobooks, bible studies and so much more. It is an app you install on your SmartTV, phone, and computer.

Go to [formed.org](http://formed.org).

Enter Zip code: 62448, select: Tri-Parish Newton, IL

A selection of ideas for the month will be shared.

### For August:



## Family Catechesis T-Shirts

A short sleeved light gray t-shirt with our F.C. logo. order by September 3  
The cost is \$15.00 for adults and kids.  
If interested call the Holy Cross office.

## Upcoming September Events

3: Parent Meeting, Youth Activity, Celebrate Mary's Birthday along with Saint presentations, and more.

13-14: Red Plate Blessing for 1<sup>st</sup> graders

14: Holy Cross Parish Feast Day Celebration

# FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SAINTS

August 2025



# Our August Saints



Bl. Carlo Acutis

“The Apostle of the Eucharist”  
He will be canonized September 7,  
during the Papal Mass  
St. Peter's Square Vatican City, this is  
3:00 am our time, but your can still  
watch the recording on Youtube,  
EWTN and other social media outlets.



## St. Monica

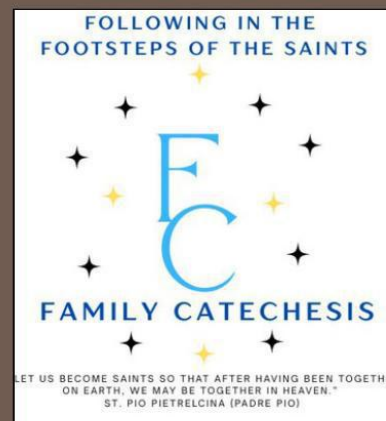
Honored for her unwavering faith and  
perseverance in prayer.  
Patron of Mothers, Marriages, and  
children who have left the faith.  
"There is no place that is far from God."  
Feast Day August 27



## Our Lady of Knock

An apparition in Ireland in 1879,  
where there was total silence. Mary  
appeared with St Joseph, St John  
the Evangelist, a lamb and a cross.  
A testament of deep trust and love.  
Feast Day August 21

# Family Catechesis





Holy Cross Church

# FEAST DAY/DEDICATION CELEBRATION



SEPT 14 2025

MASS : 10:00AM

MEAL: 11:00AM

DEDICATION: 1:00PM

MENU: PORK LOIN  
GARLIC GRILLED CHICKEN BREAST  
HASHBROWN CASSEROLE  
GREEN BEANS  
TEA/LEMONADE  
DESSERT

MEAL CATERED BY OCHS ST SMOKED MEATS  
COOKIES AND DRINKS PROVIDED AFTER DEDICATION  
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE BACK OF CHURCH OR CALL 618-752-5671 OR TEXT  
CINDY BLANK AT 618-843-8018  
RSVP BY SEPT. 1

# *Saints, Eucharist and the Catholic Faith*



*Stringtown Study  
The Four Terezas*

**TUESDAY  
ST. JOSEPH  
STRINGTOWN  
10:00AM**

*Sisters in Christ  
The Devil in the Castle*

**WEDNESDAY  
HOLY CROSS  
5:30 PM**

**OCIA**  
*Order of Christian  
Initiation of Adults*

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH OR JUST  
WANT MORE INFORMATION?

WE ARE ALWAYS EXCITED TO  
WELCOME NEW  
MEMBERS/FAMILIES.

MEETINGS WILL BE  
STARTING SOON.

CONTACT  
FR. STEVEN OR CAROLINE  
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



*Olney Study  
The Eucharist*

**WEDNESDAY  
ST. JOSEPH OLNEY  
9:15 AM & 7:00 PM**

*Brother's in Christ  
Into the Breach*

**THURSDAY  
HOLY CROSS  
7:00PM**